

I agree with this RM request in part. The Commission should immediately drop this requirement as the Commission has already address this issue back when the Testing requirement was changed to 5wpm for the General, and Extra Classes.

In its Report and Order in WT Docket No. 98-143, adopted December 22, 1999 and released December 30, 1999, the Commission simplified and restructured the amateur licensing system outlined in Part 97 of the its rules, reducing the number of classes of license from 6 to 3 and, at the same time, eliminating 13 wpm and 20 wpm Morse proficiency requirements, leaving a single 5 wpm Morse proficiency requirement for the two highest remaining classes of license. At that time, the Commission clearly determined that a Morse proficiency requirement did not comport with the basis and purpose of the Amateur Radio Service and, further, that it served no regulatory purpose. But, at that time, the Commission could not completely eliminate all Morse proficiency requirements without being in derogation of its obligation under the Radio Regulations, so the Commission kept only the minimum requirement that it believed met that obligation.

In fact, that obligation under the Radio Regulations was the only reason that the Commission cited in its Report and Order for keeping any Morse proficiency requirement whatsoever.

However, as outlined herein, with the signing of the Final Acts of the World Radiocommunications Conference, 2003, in Geneva on July 4, 2003, effective July 5, 2003 the Commission is no longer bound to maintain any Morse proficiency requirement.

No further public input should be or is necessary.

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